

**Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Resolution, H. Res. 657, as
Amended**

(The amendment consists of a new preamble)

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 657

Expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2007

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota (for himself, Mr. KIND, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. WELLER of Illinois, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. HARE, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. ROSKAM, and Mr. LAHOOD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

RESOLUTION

Expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, and for other purposes.

Whereas during August 2007, severe thunderstorms were responsible for bringing as much as 18 inches of torrential

rain to parts of the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, resulting in devastating floods;

Whereas these storms tragically took the lives of 14 people;

Whereas these storms injured countless other people, damaged or destroyed thousands of homes, and devastated businesses and institutions;

Whereas on August 21, 2007, the Governor of Minnesota declared Fillmore, Houston, Steele, Olmsted, Wabasha, and Winona Counties, Minnesota, to be in a state of disaster as a result of these storms, and subsequently Dodge County, Minnesota, received a Federal major disaster declaration as well;

Whereas on August 19, 2007, and in the days following, the Governor of Wisconsin declared Crawford, La Crosse, Richland, Sauk, Vernon, Columbia, Dane, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Kenosha, Racine, and Rock Counties, Wisconsin, to be in a state of disaster as a result of these storms;

Whereas on August 22, 2007, and in the days following, the Governor of Iowa declared Appanoose, Boone, Calhoun, Cherokee, Davis, Humboldt, Mahaska, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Van Buren, Wapello, Wayne, and Webster Counties, Iowa, to be in a state of disaster as a result of these storms;

Whereas on August 22, 2007, the Governor of Ohio declared Allen, Crawford, Hancock, Hardin, Putnam, Richland, Seneca, Van Wert, and Wyandot Counties, Ohio, to be in a state of disaster as a result of these storms;

Whereas on August 24, 2007, and in the days following, the Governor of Illinois declared Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Lake, LaSalle, Kane, Knox, McHenry, Warren,

and Will Counties, Illinois, to be in a state of disaster as a result of these storms;

Whereas President Bush declared 7 counties in Minnesota, 7 counties in Ohio, and 7 counties in Wisconsin to be major disaster areas as a result of these storms, and individuals and families in these areas became eligible for Federal disaster assistance;

Whereas numerous individuals and entities have selflessly and heroically given of themselves and their resources to aid in the disaster relief efforts; and

Whereas the catastrophic injury, death, and damage in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin would have been even worse in the absence of local relief efforts: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) expresses heartfelt sympathy for the victims
3 of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe
4 flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illi-
5 nois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin;

6 (2) conveys gratitude to the local, State, and
7 Federal officials and emergency personnel who re-
8 sponded swiftly to the crisis, including emergency
9 management teams in each of the affected States,
10 Michael Chertoff, Secretary of Homeland Security,
11 and David Paulison, Administrator of the Federal
12 Emergency Management Agency;

13 (3) recognizes the generous and selfless support
14 of citizens, local businesses, the American Red

1 Cross, the United Way, Catholic Charities, and the
2 Salvation Army; and
3 (4) reaffirms support to helping the victims of
4 the flooding rebuild their homes and lives.